

STUDIES IN THE SENECEONEAE (ASTERACEAE). VII.

ADDITIONS TO THE GENUS ROLDANA

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In the recent resurrection of the genus Roldana La Llave & Lagasca (Robinson & Brettell, 1974) 48 species were recognized with 7 described as new. One new species and two new combinations are offered here with corrections on other recent work in the genus.

A recent paper by Williams (1975) includes references to some species of the genus Roldana. One of these, R. greenmanii Robinson & Brettell is simply and rather needlessly transferred to Senecio but the other cases are more complicated.

Senecio orogenes is a new species proposed by Williams related to R. schaffneri (Sch.Bip.) R.& B. The Williams species was described from Nicaragua but seems to represent an extreme form which occurs throughout the range of R. schaffneri. Specimens seen include, Molina 24049 from Honduras, Matuda 734 from Chiapas, and Matuda 1381 from Veracruz. A number of intermediate forms have also been seen from southern Mexico and a separate species status does not seem to be warranted.

Roldana petasioides (Greenm.) H.Robinson, comb. nov.
Senecio petasioides Greenm. in J.D.Smith, Bot. Gaz. 37: 419. 1904. I accept Williams' suggestion that the name Roldana petasites (Sim)R.&B. is misapplied to the this Central American species. I would go further and suggest R. petasites might be the proper name for the Mexican species known as R. sartorii (Hemsl.) R.& B. However, the reasoning of Williams cannot be followed regarding number of flowers or leaf pubescence in either species. His conclusions place great reliance on an unreliable illustration and they are inconsistent with either R. chiapensis R.& B. which he synonymizes or with the type description of R. petasioides itself. The concept accepted here excludes R. chiapensis which completely lacks the tomentose leaf undersurface characteristic of R. petasioides.

Roldana quezaltica (Williams) H.Robinson, comb. nov.
Senecio quezalticus L.Williams, Phytologia 31: 446. 1975. The species is related to R. aschenborniana (Schauer) R.& B. but Williams gives none of his reasons for the distinction except perhaps geography. The species is accepted here somewhat hesitantly on the basis of two specimens (J.D.Smith 2362; Skutch 319)

both from Guatemala, having leaves which are broadest distinctly below the middle and which have rather coarse sparse pubescence on the undersurface.

A specimen from Oaxaca, Mexico, distributed by the New York Botanical Garden as Senecio acutangulus (Berto.) Hemsl. vel. aff., differs from that Guatemalan species by the more acute phyllaries without discolored tips and by the mottled surface of the stems. The stems resemble those of R. hartwegii (Benth.) R. & B. of western Mexico but the corollas of the later have pubescent basal tubes. The Oaxaca material seems to represent an undescribed species in the group with subcymose inflorescences.

Roldana subcymosa H. Robinson, sp. nov. Plantae herbaceae usque ad 1.5 m altae paucè vel non ramosae breviter rhizomatosae; radices fibrosae. Caules sparse floccoso-tomentosi distincte striati nigro-maculati. Folia alternata longe petiolata, petiolis usque ad 7 cm longis, laminis oblongo-orbiculatis 6-15 cm longis 5-15 cm latis breviter dentatis 10-14 angulatis et minute denticulatis apice obtuse acutis base cordatis supra sparse breviter pilosis subtus minute floccose albo-tomentosis, nervis palmatis vel subpalmatis. Inflorescentiae terminales subcymoso-paniculatae, bracteis plerumque minutis, pedicellis ultimis 5-11 mm longis sparse puberulis, squamis subinvolucris 3-4 minutis angustatis. Capitula subcylindrica 11-12 mm alta 4-5 mm lata, squamae involucri 8 anguste oblongae 7-8 mm longae plerumque 1.5 mm latae extus glabrae margine et ad apicem late scariosae apice anguste rotundatae. Flores flavi; flores radii (1-)3, tubis angustis ca. 4 mm longis glabris, limbis anguste ellipticis ca. 6 mm longis ca. 2.5 mm latis; flores disci 7-8; corollae ca. 8 mm longae, tubis ca. 3.5 mm longis glabris, faucis anguste infundibularibus ca. 2 mm longis, lobis ca. 2.5 mm longis ca. 0.6 mm latis; thecae antherarum ca. 2 mm longae, appendicibus 0.4 mm longis. Achaenia cylindrica ca. 2 mm longa glabra; carpodia subcylindrica, cellulis ca. 10-seriatis quadratis vel brevioribus; pappus 5-6 mm longus facile deciduus 2-3-seriatus, cellulis apicalibus setarum angustis argute acutis. Grana pollinis ca. 35 μ diam.

MEXICO: OAXACA: In a moist ravine in pine-oak-alder zone well up in the Sierra Madre del Sur, about 125 km south of Oaxaca, on the road to Puerto Angel. Elevation about 2400 m. Plants single-stemmed, to 1.5 m, from a very short, thickened, fibrous-rooted rhizome-caudex. Heads yellow (not orange or golden), with (1-)3 rays and 7-8 disk flowers. Growing with #10887, S. roldana DC. var. roldana, which however is larger (to 2.5 m) and coarser with bright orange-yellow, discoid heads that have 17-18 flowers. November 7, 1970. Cronquist and Fay 10888 (Holotype US).

Robinson, H. and Brettell, R. D. 1974. Studies in the Senecion-eae (Asteraceae). V. Phytologia 27: 402-439.

Williams, L. O. 1975. Tropical American Plants, XVIII. Phytologia 31: 435-447.